(c) and (d) The annual plan (87-88) covers expansion in all the states of the country.

Dangerous effect of E.P. Forte

447. SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a decision to finally ban the sale of E.P. Forte, Menstrogen Forte and Discron Forte which are harmful to pregnant women;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if the answer to part (a) above be in negative the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) to (c) The Supreme Court of India have directed the Drugs Controller (India) to decide whether the combination of Oestrogen and Progesterone may be permitted for marketing in the country, by conducting Public Enquiries at places other than New Delhi if desired.

Accordingly the Drugs Controller (India) held Public Hearings at Madras, New Delhi, Calcutta and Bombay on 5th February, 10th April, 10th July and 14th July, 1987 respectively. In these hearings, the concerned firms, Voluntary Organisations, Doctors etc. have submitted voluminus documentary evidence for and against the ban on the combinations of high doses of Oestrogen and Progesterone (other than Oral Contraceptives).

Decision in the matter will be taken after examining the documents received at the hearings.

Narrow escape of Indian airlines Boeing

448. SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that nearly 68 passengers had a narrow escape when an Indian Airlines Boeing from Kathmandu developed engine trouble as it was taking off from Varanasi on 11-7-87; and

(b) if so, what are the details of action taken to check such accidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) Indian Airlines B-737 aircraft operating flight IC-408 abandoned take-off at Varanasi on 11-7-87 due high vibrations on its right engine.

The Incident is under investigation. Based on the findings, adequate follow-up action would be taken.

Passengers killed in DTC buses

449. SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn by IIT that of the 39 bus passengers killed in Delhi in a year in DTC buses, 82 per cent were people who fell off footboards or got crushed while riding on the moving vehicle; if so, the details thereof; and

(b) what are the steps Government is taking to check this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) No, Sir. However, information in respect of passengers killed while alighting/boarding the DTC buses is as under:—

Year	Total number of persons killed in Delhi	Total number of persons killed while alighting/boarding the buses or who fell off the foot-boards	%age of persons killed travelling on foot-boards, alighting/boarding.
1984	229	35	15%
1985	239	36	15%
1986	189	32	17%

There is no separate record maintained in respect of persons who got crushed while boarding.

(b) Passengers are advised by D.T.C. through Public Address System at important terminals like Central Secretariat terminal and through special instructions displayed inside the bus, not to travel on foot-boards to avoid accidents. Similarly, they are also advised not to board or alight from the moving buses.

Set up for new digital trunk automatic exchanges

450. SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up new digital trunk automatic exchanges in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is proposed to set up 36 new digital trunk automatic exchanges in the country. Out of which 4 digital trunk automatic exchanges at Agra, Lucknow, Trichy and Rajkot have already been commissioned and the remaining 32 are likely to be commissioned during the 7th Plan.

Postal and telecommunication facilities in Bihar

451. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the target set up by the Government to open Post Offices, Village Post Offices and installation of new telephone exchanges and telegraph offices in Bihar during the current year;

(b) what was the target in this respect during the last financial year;

(c) whether the targets for the last financial year was fully achieved; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and to what extent; and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) *Post Offices*: 55 post offices have been sanctioned under the current Annual Plan (1987-88) in the rural areas of the Southern Region of Bihar. The proposals in respect of the northern region of the Circle have not yet been finalised.

Telephone exchanges: The target for opening of new telephone exchanges in Bihar for 1987-88 is 29.

Telegraph Offices: 145 Long distance public telephones are targetted to be opened in Bihar during the current financial year. Telegraph